



Idaho Potatoes

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
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IDAHO: Potato growers in Idaho have planted an estimated 300,000 acres in 2008, a 14 percent decrease from the 350,000 acres planted in 2007. Harvested acres, at 299,000, are also down 14 percent from a year ago. This is the least potato acreage in Idaho since 1980. In the 10 Southwest Counties, planted and harvested acres are estimated at 15,000 acres, down 6,000 acres from 2007. This is the least potato acreage in the 10 Southwest Counties since 1963. Acres for harvest in the State's Other Counties are expected to total 284,000 acres from 285,000 planted acres. This is a 13 percent decrease from last year's 329,000 acres planted in Other Counties.

Potatoes planted in Idaho are estimated to be 2 percent red, 3 percent white, 1 percent yellow, and 94 percent Russet. Based on a special Growers' Survey, acreage intended to be marketed through fresh channels accounted for 57 percent of the total acres planted, acreage intended to be marketed directly to a processor accounted for 33 percent, and acreage to be marketed or used for seed accounted for 10 percent.

United States: Potato growers across the United States have planted an estimated 1.06 million acres of potatoes in all four seasons this year, down 8 percent from last year and 7 percent below 2006. Area for harvest, forecasted at 1.04 million acres, is also down 8 percent from 2007 and 7 percent below 2 years ago.

Fall Potatoes: Area planted to fall potatoes for 2008 is estimated at 929,100 acres, down 8 percent from last year and 7 percent below 2006. Harvested area is forecast at 916,200 acres, also down 8 percent from 2007 and 7 percent below 2006. The decrease in planted acreage can partly be attributed to higher prices from competing crops, which influenced growers to plant crops other than potatoes.

Western States: Washington producers planted 6 percent fewer acres than a year ago. Oregon growers decreased acreage 3 percent from last year and the crop was 1 to 2 weeks behind normal. Planted acres in Colorado dropped 4 percent. A storm at the end of June caused wind and hail damage to some of the acres. Montana's fall potato acres are down 4 percent and Nevada's acres decreased 14 percent. California producers increased acreage by 10 percent and farmers in New Mexico planted 15 percent more acres.

Central States: North Dakota's planted acreage declined 14 percent from last year. When compared to 2007, planted acres decreased 4 percent in Minnesota, went up 5 percent in Michigan, and remained unchanged in Wisconsin. Ohio producers reduced acres 22 percent from a year ago and growers in Nebraska decreased acreage 5 percent from last year.

Eastern States: Maine's planted area is down 4 percent from 2007. Growers in New York planted 5 percent fewer acres than in 2007, acreage in Pennsylvania increased 5 percent, and Massachusetts' planted acres decreased 4 percent. Rhode Island's planted area is estimated at 500 acres, 100 acres below last year.

Potatoes: Area Planted and Harvested, by Seasonal Group, Fall Potatoes by State, and United States, 2007 - 2008

Seasonal Group and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
1,000 Acres				
Winter	11.5	11.0	11.5	11.0
Spring	72.8	69.2	70.2	67.7
Summer	53.7	48.0	51.3	45.5
Fall				
California	8.2	9.0	8.2	9.0
Colorado	59.2	57.0	59.1	56.7
IDAHO	350.0	300.0	349.0	299.0
SW (10 Counties)	21.0	15.0	21.0	15.0
Other Counties	329.0	285.0	328.0	284.0
Maine	57.1	55.0	57.0	54.5
Massachusetts	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6
Michigan	42.5	44.5	42.0	44.0
Minnesota	50.0	48.0	47.0	45.0
Montana	11.3	10.9	11.2	10.8
Nebraska	20.5	19.5	19.4	19.1
Nevada	7.3	6.3	7.3	6.3
New Mexico	5.5	6.3	5.4	6.3
New York	19.0	18.0	18.3	17.3
North Dakota	97.0	83.0	91.0	79.0
Ohio	3.2	2.5	3.0	2.1
Oregon	36.5	35.5	36.5	35.5
Malheur County	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.0
Other Counties	33.0	32.5	33.0	32.5
Pennsylvania	10.5	11.0	10.0	10.5
Rhode Island	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5
Washington	165.0	155.0	165.0	155.0
Wisconsin	64.5	64.5	64.0	63.0
Total Fall	1,010.6	929.1	996.7	916.2
United States	1,148.6	1,057.3	1,129.7	1,040.4

Fall Potatoes: Acres Planted for Certified Seed Potatoes, by States ^{1/}

State	2007 Crop			2008	State	2007 Crop			2008
	Entered for Certification	Certified	Percent Certified	Entered for Certification		Entered for Certification	Certified	Percent Certified	Entered for Certification
	Acres		Percent	Acres		Acres		Percent	Acres
Alaska	341	341	100	340	Nebraska	4,831	3,489	72	5,486
California	630	630	100	500	New York	905	901	100	929
Colorado	14,428	10,808	75	15,374	North Dakota	17,544	16,358	93	16,433
IDAHO	31,439	31,420	100	30,500	Oregon	2,315	2,315	100	2,471
Maine	10,851	10,804	100	10,139	Pennsylvania	223	223	100	259
Michigan	2,200	2,160	98	2,100	Washington	2,648	2,648	100	2,500
Minnesota	8,497	7,881	93	7,986	Wisconsin	8,401	8,042	96	8,299
Montana	9,847	9,560	97	9,982	TOTAL	115,100	107,580	93	113,298

1/ Data supplied by State seed Certification officials.